

FIRST BALLOT AT THE ST. LOUIS CONVENTION.

Chances of Candidates as Summed Up After a Canvass of the Republican Congressional Delegations.

McKINLEY IN THE LEAD AT THE PRESENT TIME

The Ohio Candidate Against the Field--Votes for Reed, Allison and Other Candidates--Uncertainty of McKinley's Southern Support--Details of the Situation in Various States.

On the present basis of representation 456 votes will be necessary to nominate candidates for President and Vice President at the republican national convention. A canvass of the several states and territories has been made by Star reporters, through the congressional delegations, and the result is given below:

McKinley will probably be well in the lead on the first ballot at the St. Louis convention. In the contest for delegates, as it now stands, it is the field against the Ohio candidate. Broad claims are being made by McKinley's friends, and in many instances these claims cannot be tested because of the unsettled situation in many states counted for him. The indications are that he will have in the neighborhood of 400 delegates on the first ballot. It is claimed by his antagonists that he will re-



Ex-Gov. McKinley.

ceive his highest vote on the first two ballots. It is conceded that Reed will have the next highest number of votes, but the other candidates seem to be willing to run the risk of the Maine man's getting the nomination, and to make common cause against McKinley. Two weak points in the case of Ohio's favorite son to which attention is called are that the boom is too well developed far in advance of the convention, thus encouraging the rivals to throw darts at it; and that it depends too much upon the southern votes.

The southern delegations are not generally regarded as a safe reliance, and in the present instance there will be contesting delegations from several of the southern states. In these cases of contest, the choice is apt to depend upon the complexion of the convention as determined by the majority of delegates without contests. For this reason, Mr. McKinley might have already to control the convention before he could add the southern votes to his column. In Florida two districts have endorsed Reed, and there are two sets of delegates contesting for the other six places. One delegation is for Morton and the other for McKinley. This delegation, while claimed, cannot be counted for McKinley unless he controls the convention without it.

Mississippi presents a contest. While both delegations at the outset were supposed to be for McKinley, it is believed that incidents of the fight have rendered it probable that one of these delegations will be anti-McKinley. Here again the delegation is rendered unavailable in aiding the Ohio candidate to control the convention organization. A similar situation is expected to affect the delegations of South Carolina, Alabama, Louisiana, and Texas, which will probably send contesting delegations. It is therefore possible that 100 delegates, or most of those representing these states, will have nothing to do with the temporary organization.

For and Against McKinley.

The present indications are that McKinley will go into the convention with about 16 votes from Arkansas, about 20 votes from Indiana, 20 votes from Kansas, 20 from Missouri, 46 from Ohio, 8 from Oregon, 16 from Tennessee, 6 from Virginia, 12 from West Virginia, and 22 from Wisconsin. Besides these 194 votes, he is liable to get at the start 6 from Alabama, 6 from Delaware, 6 from Illinois, 10 from Indiana, 2 from Nebraska, 17 from North Carolina, 6 from North Dakota, and (at least) 13 from Georgia, making in all 262; that there is a reasonable prospect of his having on the first ballot. The uncertainties in this estimate may safely be reckoned as offset by the uncertainties among those counted as not favorable to the Ohio candidate.

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Senator Allison.

McKinley and anti-McKinley classes, as the first fight is expected to come in that form. The votes calculated as most apt not to be cast for McKinley are: California, 18; Colorado, 8; Idaho, 6; Illinois, 42; Iowa, 20; New England, 13; Maryland, 16; Montana, 20; Nebraska, 14; Nevada, 6; New Jersey, 20; New

York, 72; North Carolina, 15; Pennsylvania, 60; Utah, 6; Minnesota, 18; South Dakota, 8; and Tennessee, 8; making 417.

Votes in Doubt.

This leaves 125 votes in doubt or divided as between McKinley and the field: Georgia, 13; Kentucky, 28; Missouri, 4; Virginia, 18; Washington, 8; Wisconsin, 2; Wyoming, 6; Arizona, 2; New Mexico, 6; Oklahoma, 2; District of Columbia, 2; Indian territory, 2; Alaska, 2; and Pennsylvania, 4, in addition to 106 delegates contested. Of these most of the Michigan and Kentucky votes are apt to go to McKinley if the states are not represented by favorable sons. Bradley is almost sure to have the Kentucky vote on the first ballot. It is doubtful about Michigan presenting a favorite son.

For Reed.

Reed will have the 78 New England votes sure, and with reasonable certainty 5 from North Carolina, 6 from Tennessee, 12 from Virginia, 2 from Florida, making 103. It is believed that he will get out of the contested delegations 15 from Louisiana, possibly all the Lynch delegation from Mississippi, 18; 12 from Alabama and a majority of Texas. It is expected that he will get 8 in Georgia, 3 in Missouri, 20 in New Jersey, half, if not all the 18 California delegates, 16 from Maryland. These latter estimates are only approximate, since no definite calculation can now be made as to how the anti-McKinley delegates, when they are divided delegations, will be distributed among the several other candidates. It is thought that Reed will have on the start upward of 200 votes, not counting large blocks of delegates who will be tied to other candidates at first.

Allison's Strength.

It is difficult to estimate Allison's strength. He will have the twenty-six Iowa votes and a few scattering here and there to start with, but is second or third choice in many quarters. On account of the possibilities of a deadlock his stock is quoted high, without much being in sight at present. It is not probable that the entire Indiana delegation will go to him very early in the fight. He is likely to draw largely from Michigan, Minnesota, Illinois and parts of the south, on a break up.

Other Candidates.

Morton and Quay will go in each with his big state delegation behind him, and each with a few delegates in the south. As to both these, all the rest is mystery. Davis will have Minnesota and South Dakota to start with. Bradley will probably have Kentucky behind him. Alker or Burrows may be presented by Michigan. Mansderson will probably have all but two of the Nebraska delegates. Cullom will probably have all but four of the Illinois delegation.

A most careful survey of the field discloses a situation which indicates a strong probability of a nomination on the first two or three ballots. A liberal allotment to McKinley of the delegates whose position is doubtful would hardly give him strength to control the convention at the start against the field. The field seems to have the biggest bunch.

New England.

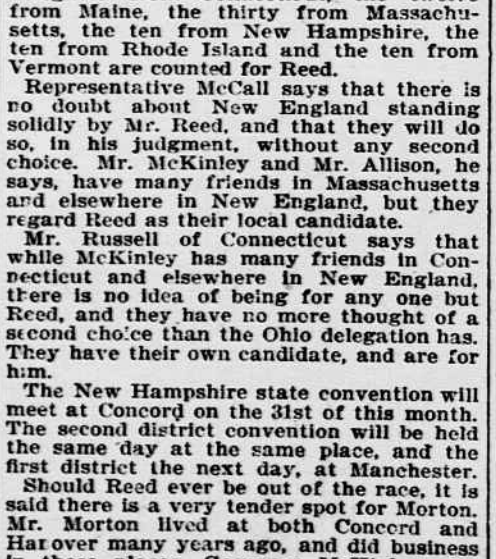
It is conceded by every one that the solid New England delegation will be for Reed. Many and some other of these states, it is confessed by the friends of other candidates, will stand by Reed to the end, whatever the result may be, but they profess to believe that the delegates from some of the New England states will have a second choice of Reed or McKinley. The Reed people claim, and the general indications are, that there will be no second choice with any of these delegations, and that if the Maine man should be elected, the whole of New England would still be

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Col. W. O. Bradley.

found standing by him to the last ballot. Without contest or discussion the twelve delegates from Connecticut, the twelve from Rhode Island and the ten from Vermont are counted for Reed. Representative McKim says that there is no doubt about New England standing solidly by Mr. Reed, and that they will do so, in his judgment, without any second choice. Mr. McKim, who is for Reed, says, however, that many friends in Massachusetts and elsewhere in New England, but they regard Reed as their local candidate, and are for him.

The New Hampshire state convention will meet at Concord on the 31st of this month. The second district convention will be held the same day at the same place, and the first district the next day, at Manchester. Should Reed ever be out of the race, it is said there is a very tender spot for Morton. Mr. Morton lived at both Concord and Harrover many years ago, and did business in those places. Governor McKinley also has friends.

If the time should ever come when Reed were out of the race, Morton might get the vote of Vermont. Governor Morton was born at Shoreham, in that state, and is still remembered with respect and admiration. Senator Proctor will, no doubt, be a delegate from the state.

Talking of the financial sentiment of the

state, Congressman Grout said: "We are for the American doctrine of silver and gold. We are for keeping the two metals on a parity."

New York and Pennsylvania.

The situation in New York and Pennsylvania is almost identical, except that in the former the general sentiment is regarded as more favorable to Reed, and in Pennsylvania it is regarded as probably more favorable to McKinley. In the New York delegation in Congress no one can be found who will admit any doubt as to the earnestness of Morton's candidacy, or for a minority of the delegation to support another choice. In the Pennsylvania delegation the only answer to all questions is that Quay is a candidate, and that Pennsylvania is for Quay. Many of the delegates are of the relative strength of other candidates in the state is resented.

The combination is generally regarded as anti-McKinley, whatever else it may be. There are various estimates as to how the delegations of these two states would divide up if their favorite sons were out of the way. Reed's strength in New York is generally conceded, and there is a dispute as to whether he or McKinley is stronger in Pennsylvania. There is a public belief that some sort of understanding has been had between Quay and Platt, and that the votes of Pennsylvania and New York will eventually be thrown for the same candidate. The unit rule is expected to operate in both delegations, and the majority support will not count. No doubt is expressed that Quay will control the Pennsylvania delegation and throw it where he wants, if he drops out of the race himself. As to the New York delegation, one of the best informed of the republican members of the House says that they will vote for Morton unless he tells them to stop, and if he does not, they will vote for McKinley. The belief is expressed in other quarters that they will be found in the Reed column.

New Jersey.

Mr. Loudenslager says that the New Jersey delegation will go unpledged, and will be free to act as circumstances and the general condition of affairs may influence their choice after they get to the convention. They have no hostility toward any candidate. None of the New Jersey men will admit any preference as to the delegation. The belief is expressed in other quarters that they will be found in the Reed column.

Maryland.

Representative Wellington says that the Maryland delegation will probably go to the convention without promise, pledge, or obligation to any one of the candidates. As a compliment to their new republican governor they will probably cast their sixteen votes for Lowndes on the first ballot, and after that their course will be decided by the existing sentiment in the state. A general understanding that Mr. Reed has

a little the best chance of bagging this delegation when the trap is sprung.

How the votes of these two great states will ultimately be cast in the convention no one can tell. It is doubtful whether the leaders have as yet any idea; but one thing is generally recognized, and that is, that the combination is to cast the seventy-two votes of New York and nearly all, if not quite all, of the sixty votes of Pennsylvania against McKinley.

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for years, announced himself for McKinley months ago. Some time before the state convention last year, Mr. Cullom's name was mentioned for a cabinet position should McKinley win. Mr. A. Hanna sent a congratulatory telegram to the convention, to the effect that that state was the leader in the nomination of McKinley. The delegates at large from the state are Powell Clayton, L. L. Remmel, Henry M. Cooper and M. W. Gibbs, colored. District delegates have also been elected.

Another state convention will be held on July 1 for the purpose of putting out a full state ticket. The republicans are very hopeful, and believe they have a chance of carrying the state this fall. Should they fail to make a combination with the populists they would stand a good chance, especially should the national democratic party declare against silver. The independent sentiment in the state is large, and thousands of democrats would not vote for a gold standard candidate for President. The state convention adopted a platform in favor of "true bimetalism," in favor of protection and in favor of a tariff law, the rates of which will measure the difference between American and European conditions, and will be fully adequate to protect ourselves from the invasion of our markets by oriental products to the injury of American labor, and will in no case be too low to protect and exalt American labor and promote and increase American production.

The convention condemned "the action of the democratic party in Congress, especially the Arkansas Senators and Representatives in voting to place and in placing the products of our forests on the free list, whereby the lumber industry of this state has been grievously injured, and the labor of our people has been greatly reduced." The convention also declared in its platform that as protection to the lumber industry of this state, the products of our forests on the free list, whereby the lumber industry of this state has been grievously injured, and the labor of our people has been greatly reduced. The convention also declared in its platform that as protection to the lumber industry of this state, the products of our forests on the free list, whereby the lumber industry of this state has been grievously injured, and the labor of our people has been greatly reduced.

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of the states in which the Congressmen had been elected in the fight for the election of delegates. McKinley's friends are making a fight for Reed, and his district will be almost certain to send Reed delegates to St. Louis. It is estimated that McKinley will get about seventeen and Reed five. The state convention has not been called, and none of the districts have acted.

Kentucky. "The majority of the republicans of Kentucky are for McKinley," said Representative Colson to a Star reporter, "but all of the candidates have warm friends. Cullom of Illinois was born in my district, and he has many friends here. Reed's cause will be backed, but, as I have said, the majority of the republicans of Kentucky are for McKinley. Our delegates will be instructed for Gov. Bradley if he runs."

So far as the republican Representatives of the state are concerned, Hunter, Pugh and Colson are for McKinley, while Lewis and Evans are for Reed. The state convention will meet on April 15, for the purpose of electing four delegates to St. Louis, and the interesting part of it is that each elected McKinley delegates. There is no division so far as the republican ranks are concerned. The friends of the Ohio candidate say that the delegates of each faction are for him first, last and all the time. The Hill faction seems to be in the majority in point of numbers. Mississippi delegates regard both Hill and Lynch as men of the highest standing, and say that whichever side loses at St. Louis will accept the defeat gracefully. It may be that each delegation will be given half a vote, and both delegations seated in that way. It is beginning to look now, however, that the Lynch faction might turn against McKinley on account of alleged assistance given by McKinley's managers to the Hill faction.

The split comes about through each faction wanting to control the state patronage should the republican national ticket be successful. There are few white republicans in the state, and they are in the leadership. Mississippi is an exception that way. In most of the southern states a few white men run everything.

H. Clay Evans, Chairman Newell Sanders and practically all the leaders of Tennessee are for McKinley. Representative Gibson leans toward McKinley, while Representatives Brown and McCall are understood to be favorable to Reed.

Mr. Evans, who is the strongest and most popular republican in Tennessee, would like to be the vice presidential nominee on the ticket with McKinley, or with any one else, but thinks that McKinley's nomination should give the south the presidency. Tennessee republicans claim that with Evans for Vice President Tennessee would go republican in November. The delegates at St. Louis will be instructed to do something to curb the growing power of the governor in the state. It is a fight between Hunter and Bradley for the control of the politics of the state. The state convention will declare for sound money, protection and reciprocity. Reciprocity is popular in Kentucky, and the delegates will try to prevent any instructions for Hunter and Bradley for the control of the politics of the state. The state convention will declare for sound money, protection and reciprocity. Reciprocity is popular in Kentucky, and the delegates will try to prevent any instructions for Hunter and Bradley for the control of the politics of the state.

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